

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/452,161

Applicant(s)

SAITO ET AL.

Examiner

Suresh K Suryawanshi

Art Unit

2185

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 1999.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 December 1999 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-16 are presented for examination.

Drawings

2. This application has been filed with informal drawings which are acceptable for examination purposes only. Formal drawings will be required when the application is allowed.....

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: "31" and "35" in figure 3, on page 10, lines 2, 18, and 19. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

4. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: "31" and "39" in figure 3, on page 11, lines 2, 5, and 9. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

5. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: "31" and "18" in figure 4, on page 11, lines 14 and 16. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are

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required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

6. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: "31" and "35" in figure 4, on page 12, lines 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 21. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

7. Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informalities: There should be a semicolon at the end of the sentence "first and second power supply input terminals" on page 16, line 2.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

9. Claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Yin et al (US Patent no 5,517,153).

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10. As per claim 1, Yin et al teach that a power supply control device comprising:

First and second power supply input terminals [col. 1, lines 63-66];

A power supply input detection unit determining whether an input of said second power supply input terminal is above a predetermined value [col. 2, lines 9-18];

A switching unit cutting off power [col. 2, lines 9-18]; and

A power supply processor processing the power [fig. 4; load processes the power].

11. As per claims 2 and 8, Yin et al teach that first power supply input terminal is connected to an interface power supply [inherently most USB devices utilize the interface power supply] and second power supply input terminal is connected to an AC adapter [col. 3, lines 43-50; line voltage].

12. As per claim 3, Yin et al teach that switching unit [switching circuit; col. 1, lines 63-67; col. 2, lines 1-18].

13. As per claims 5 and 11, Yin et al teach that switching unit is includes

A first switch activating or deactivating the power [switching circuit includes three switches; col. 1, lines 63-67];

A second switch which activating or deactivating the power [switching circuit includes three switches; col. 1, lines 63-67]; and

A switch control unit driving one of the first and second switches [switching circuit; col. 1, lines 63-67; col. 2, lines 1-18].

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14. As per claims 6 and 12, Yin et al teach that the switch includes a field effect transistor [inherent, fig. 4, fig. 5].

15. As per claim 7, Yin et al teach that

A first power supply input terminal [col. 1, lines 63-66; inherently most USB devices utilize the interface power supply];

A second power supply input terminal [col. 1, lines 63-66];

A power supply input detection unit which detects an instance when the input of said second power supply input terminal is above a predetermined value [col. 2, lines 9-18];

A switch unit which cuts off a power supply [col. 2, lines 9-18]; and

A power supply processor which processes the power supply [fig. 4; load processes the power].

16. As per claim 9, Yin et al teach that switch unit includes

A switch which activates or deactivates a power supply [col. 1, lines 63-67; col. 2, lines 1-5]; and

A switch control unit which drives the switch [switching circuit; col. 1, lines 63-67].

17. As per claim 13, Yin et al teach that the interface is a USP-specified or an IEEE-specified interface [inherent in a information processing or computer system].

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18. As per claim 14, Yin et al teach that the information processing device is a storage device which process a disk form, card form or tape form of a storage medium [inherent to a information processing device or a computer].

19. As per claim 15, Yin et al teach that a power supply control device comprising:

First and second input terminals [col. 1, lines 63-66];

A detection unit determining [col. 2, lines 9-18]; and

A switching unit cutting off power [col. 2, lines 9-18].

20. As per claim 16, Yin et al teach a method controlling a power supply control device comprising:

Determining whether an input of a second power supply input terminal is above a predetermined value [col. 2, lines 9-18]; and

Switching off power [col. 2, lines 9-18].

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

21. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

22. Claims 4 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Yin et al (US Patent no 5,517,153) in view of admitted prior art disclosed by the applicant.

23. As per claims 4 and 10, Yin et al disclose the invention substantially. Yin et al do not disclose about a backflow prevention unit. However, it is clearly shown in the prior art disclosed by the applicant [fig. 1; use of diodes 8, 9; specification, page 3, line5]. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement a backflow prevention unit.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Suresh K Suryawanshi whose telephone number is 703-305-3990. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30am - 5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 703-305-9717. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-7239 for regular communications and 703-746-7238 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-305-3900.

sks
July 22, 2002


THOMAS LEE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100